

AUDITOR'S REPORT SOUNDS WARNING ON POSTOFFICE AFFAIRS IN FUTURE

Recent Scandals Mere Details to What They Might Be Under Present Weak System of Auditing Accounts—Resigned Official Comments Freely on Defects.

Capt. Henry A. Castle, as Auditor for the Postoffice Department, has delivered his annual report to the Secretary of the Treasury and to the Postmaster General. The report abounds in trenchant criticisms of the present limitations of the auditor's office, and to defective legislation and to a force which he declares totally inadequate to handle the postal business.

The transactions of the Postoffice Department were more than a billion of dollars in the last fiscal year and are estimated to be growing at the rate of 10 per cent a year. Speaking of the lack of examination of accounts, for which lack his office is not responsible, Captain Castle says:

Double Audit Seldom.

"Presumptively there is a double audit of all governmental receipts and disbursements, but, literally, under existing laws and conditions 90 per cent of the postal transactions can have no examination whatever in the Postoffice Department. The accounts come direct from the postmasters to the auditor's office, where, except for the fragmentary reviews recently introduced and described in my last report, they are never re-examined. Less than \$10,000,000 of the \$1,000,000,000 annual transactions can have the shadow of a double audit. As to matters which receive a preliminary administrative examination, it is a fundamental axiom of correct accounting that the auditor is entitled to all the information possessed by the department when the account was approved. But as to claims for railway mail transportation aggregating about \$40,000,000 a year, the auditor must rely wholly on the bald statement of the departmental authorities that the accounts certified are due and payable."

Accounting Methods Loose.

In another section of the report Captain Castle sounds a warning that the scandals in the Postoffice Department are now agitating the country. "As compared with the auditing system, he says, the revelations of the past few years show lack of administrative in-

crease in the auditing system. He says that the auditing system is in a state of chaos, and that the only remedy is to place the auditing system in a position to make a more complete examination of the accounts. He also suggests that greater latitude be given the Postmaster General in disposing of certain appropriations, in order that when necessity arises that

No Tab on Railroads.

Captain Castle points out clearly and specifically a number of cases in which he has to audit and be responsible for immense sums of money without knowing any of the details of its receipt or expenditure. The most glaring instance to be cited is in the enormous transactions between the Postoffice Department and the railroads. These accounts are handled in the office of the Second Assistant Postmaster General, but the particulars of how the \$40,000,000 annually expended for the service is disposed of do not come to the auditor, and he has to accept the bare statement of other officials of the department.

Haphazard Methods Alleged.

Lack of proper accounting systems in the payments for stamps, the impossibility under present conditions of properly auditing the money order accounts, the haphazard method of accounting for money received for second class postage and numerous other matters in which the Government is exposed to the possibility of enormous swindles are dwelt upon by the auditor. He pleads for a reform in the laws, as well as in depart-

ment regulations, in order that the dangers of the situation may be reduced. Captain Castle has already resigned, and is only awaiting the appointment of his successor before going out of office, so that his recommendations have the merit of disinterestedness. In view of the present postal scandals, it is probable they will attract wide attention.

Great Increase in Business.

The report shows that in six years the increase in postal business has been 88 per cent, and the actual increase of work devolving on the auditor's staff 90 per cent. To meet this remarkable growth in business and responsibility the increase in the force of the auditor in the six years has been only 23 per cent. Captain Castle points out it is impossible with these limited facilities to properly safeguard public interests. For that reason he urgently suggests the force of his office be increased by 120 clerks to handle work now thrown upon his employees. Should these suggestions be adopted by Congress and the auditor be given greater power to inquire into transactions involving millions, the force will have to be increased still further.

The present system under which city postmasters are requisitioned to pay expenses not connected with their offices is all wrong, and should be stopped, the auditor says. A case of this custom figured largely in the charge of Seymour W. Tulloch that the Washington post office had been made a bureau of the Postoffice Department, and had been tampered with by those politicians who did much to bring the postal service into disrepute, leading to the investigations which have assumed such national importance.

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official may make absolutely necessary expenditures without having to adopt subterfuges at which the Auditor has to wink in order to promote the public welfare.

To Control Patents.

A new idea advanced by Captain Castle is that the patent laws be amended so that when a patented article is needed by the Government the price to be paid for it shall be determined by a committee of experts who shall make allowances for profits and royalties, and if the inventor does not accept that price his monopoly arising from the patent shall be broken. This innovation is put forward because of the observations that the greater part of the scandals revealed by the investigations into the Postoffice Department have been shown to be due to the purchase of patented articles for which the manufacturers obtained excessive prices.

Immense Work of Auditing.

Captain Castle draws attention to the enormous amount of work involved in the auditing of the 46,000,000 domestic money orders issued annually, which should receive double audit prescribed by good sense, and all good methods of accounting, but which is impossible under the present circumstances. The auditor recommends that the law be amended so that the Treasury Department and not the Postoffice Department shall prescribe the forms and vouchers by which accounts are to be audited, and that the auditor's force be removed to a separate building. He states that the Postoffice Department has more than enough employees to fill space that would be vacated in the Postoffice building, and that it would work to the benefit of the service and all concerned to have the auditor's office entirely separated from the department.

ALEXANDRIA NEWS NOTES

TENDERS HIS RESIGNATION.

ALEXANDRIA, Va., Oct. 31.—John H. Fisher, who, for twenty-one years has been the courteous and popular manager of the Western Union Telegraph Company in this city, has tendered his resignation, to take effect at once. R. L. Stultz, of Suffolk, has been appointed by the company to take Mr. Fisher's place. Mr. Fisher has been offered other posts by the company, but has not decided yet whether he will accept them or not. He will start at once upon a vacation.

CLERK BEACH REPORTS.

The clerk of the corporation court, John S. Beach, during the month of October has issued forty-seven marriage licenses, thirty-seven white and ten to negro couples. He has also recorded forty deaths during the last month.

SPECIAL CHURCH SERVICES.

The Rev. J. S. Sibley, of Winchester, will conduct special services at the Second Presbyterian Church every night next week.

The Alexandria Golf Club gave a delightful Halloween party at the golf clubhouse on Shooter's Hill tonight.

NEW OFFICE FOR BREWERY.

Plans for a new office for the Robert Porter Brewing Company have been drawn by W. Leon Clark, architect, of this city. The plans call for a building one story high of buff press brick, brown stone trimmings, slate roof, metal ceiling, Terrazo floor, electric lights, steam heat, etc. The office will be one of the finest in the city when it is completed.

FIRE IN COLUMBUS STREET.

A slight fire occurred at the home of the Misses Grigg in South Columbus Street, yesterday morning, but it was extinguished by Engineer Smith and Henry Phillips, of the Columbia fire company without turning in an alarm.

REV. WRIGHT TO PREACH.

The only church that will have services by an out-of-town minister tomorrow will be the First Baptist Church, where the Rev. Lundy R. Wright, of Norfolk, will occupy the pulpit at all the services.

NEW CAR ROUTE.

The trains between Alexandria and Washington on the electric railway now use the King Street track, the incoming train turning off to Payne Street and waiting until the northbound train passes before coming east. The Cameron Street track has been abandoned temporarily.

NEWS NOTES.

Marietta Allen, the little daughter of Policeman Allen, is ill at her father's home in Henry Street.

Services at the Railroad Reading Rooms will be conducted by the Rev. W. H. Myers tomorrow afternoon.

On account of the illness of Miss Helen Wood, at the corner of Columbus and Cameron Streets, the bells on Christ Church, and that of the Immanuel Lutheran Church will not be rung Sunday.

Miss Cora Cochran is in Charlottesville, visiting her sister, Mrs. Henry M. Lewis.

M. T. Dwyer has returned from a pleasant visit to Richmond, Va.

ALL SAINTS' DAY IS CELEBRATED TODAY

Religious Feasts After Most Enjoyable Halloween Parties.

Today is All Saints' Day, and will be appropriately celebrated the churches of Washington, as well as other cities. The feast is one that dates back to the early days of the church, and is observed in commemoration of the lives of pious men and women now counted among the most revered people of Christian times. Special services and musical programs will mark the celebration of the feast.

Preceding All Saints' Day was Halloween, one of the jolliest days of the year, which was observed last night with close adherence to all the old legends handed down for many, many years. Parties were arranged in nearly every house in Washington where there are young people, and from dusk until long after midnight the festive hour-fun and frolic held sway. Local grocers and marketmen had all they could do to supply the great demand for apples, for no other fruit is so closely identified with the celebration of this holiday as the "big red apple."

Skin and seeds were used in various ways to determine the fate of many a young woman. So sure was the old tale told last night, so sure today is that young woman of the truth of the manifestations. As she takes her way demurely to church this morning and as devoutly follows her prayer and hymn book, she is really, though shyly, looking about for that same man who Fate told her last night is to control her future.

Halloween is one of the festivals to which the men do not receive cordial invitations. They are welcome, in a way, for a girl always likes to have them around. But the jolliest and most sincere tests are made when there are no men present. Anyone in attendance at the theaters last night could plainly see that the attractive girls of Washington were engaged in some other way, as every theater in town was generously patronized by the male sex.

Despite Major Sylvester's stringent orders to members of the Metropolitan police force to be on the lookout for miscreants, Young America was out last night in all his glory and many old clothes. With jackets turned inside out, boys patrolled the streets in "little brigades" and sent terror to the hearts of many a dressed-up young man. Little annoyance, however, was caused by the youngsters who amused themselves in innocent fashion, and received a merry "hello" from their elders who, if the truth were known, envied the boys the fun of at least scaring folks out of their wits, if nothing more.

Whether many gates, window blinds, and other movable things are missing this morning, is hard to say. Certainly every gate is not where it should be today, for the boys cannot forego the pleasure of beating out the policeman if the latter is not looking, and "Bobby" must have eyes in the back of his head if he means to scare Young America out of his wits on All Halloween.

TREASURY RECEIPTS.

Treasury receipts and expenditures yesterday were: From customs, \$705,227; internal revenue, \$88,123; miscellaneous, \$49,543; total receipts, \$842,893. Expenditures, \$1,813,000.

See Page 14, Magazine Section.



The Musical World Acknowledges KNABE SUPREMACY.

The trained ear of the musician finds its ideal of tone quality in the Knabe Piano—his inspiration finds its proper means of expression in the Knabe Piano—and, of course, as his art depends in a measure on the instrument he uses, you'll find Knabes used by artists everywhere.

The new case models are all to be seen now.

Another list of used Pianos to be closed out as bargains. Hardly an instrument left that we advertised last time, which is conclusive evidence of the force of the reductions we make when the question of closing out these exchange and rent Pianos comes up.

HARDMAN CABINET GRAND, large size case, only slightly used; but now thoroughly reconstructed. Special. \$275
EMERSON UPRIGHT, in magnificent condition, but a style we've discontinued. \$150
STULTZ & HAUER UPRIGHT, in perfect condition, a sweet-toned instrument that we have thoroughly renovated. Special. \$125
KNABE SQUARE GRAND, in perfect condition, inside and out. Special. \$150
KNABE SQUARE, an instrument of tone and in thorough repair. Special. \$100
WEBER SQUARE, in excellent condition. Special. \$75
SMITH & PARNES CABINET GRAND, slightly worn. Special price. \$250
HELLER CABINET GRAND, almost as good as new. Marked special at. \$225
HOFFMAN UPRIGHT, in fancy case, can't be told from new. Special. \$200
SINGER MAHOAGANY UPRIGHT, a piano in like new. Special. \$175

WM. KNABE & CO.
1218-1220 F Street

ANNIVERSARY OF KANN'S CELEBRATED TOMORROW

Old Methods Forsaken for Many New and Attractive Features for Visitors.

There were mysterious doings yesterday and last night at the store of S. Kann Sons & Co.

Odd-shaped things were carried into the store with a degree of secrecy that caused unwelcome attention. Curious looking designs were hung about the store, and as quickly as possible covered with curtains of bleached muslin.

What it all meant could not be learned by shoppers, who evinced unusual interest. Even many of the salespeople were as much in the dark as patrons.

The cause of it all is that the firm of S. Kann Sons & Co. has been in Washington just ten years. Tomorrow is the anniversary of their opening a small store on Pennsylvania Avenue.

They had been several months before to sell out a stock specially bought, and realized the need here of a store conducted on an entirely different basis than their rivals.

Twenty persons only were employed when the permanent store opened. The firm today employs regularly more than 1,000 persons. A month later, when the holiday buying begins, there will be, it is said, fully 1,500.

Contrary to the usual custom of giving away some small article of little worth, the firm has departed in a manner sure to satisfy those who realize that it is very little in this world that is to be had for nothing.

The plan of celebration is to have attractive displays of sufficient novelty to draw crowds. And these displays, while unique and broad in scope, are only secondary. To take the place of the usual souvenir offering the merchandise handled and which they are constantly trying to interest people in is made the central feature, and there will be a flower show that, it is claimed, will surprise in every way anything public or private heretofore held in Washington. For this more than 5,000 chrysanthemums were contracted for; and these will form only a part of the floral decorations. Another attraction is to be a series of electrical displays of a very novel nature. Several of these are entirely new and will undoubtedly interest every visitor to the store tomorrow.

BIG RIVER STEAMBOAT BURNED AT ST. LOUIS

One Man Loses His Life in a Blaze That Destroys Craft.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 31.—The steamer City of St. Louis, which arrived yesterday from New Orleans, was destroyed by fire last night while moored at the ways opposite Corcoran, the southern portion of the city.

The bartender, known only as "Jimmy," is reported to have perished, and Cabin Watchman William Stammer and Frank Watson were seriously burned.

The steamer formerly belonged to the Anchor Line, and was twenty years old. Her present valuation was about \$15,000.

CHARLES SCHWAB JOINS BIG COPPER SYNDICATE

Reported to Be One of the Bruce Mine Property Purchasers.

DETROIT, Mich., Oct. 31.—A special from Sault Ste. Marie says it is reported that a syndicate headed by Charles M. Schwab has purchased the properties of the Bruce Copper Mines Company, Limited, located at Bruce Mines, about sixty miles from the Canadian Soo.

R. A. Lyon, manager of the Imperial Bank in the Canadian Soo, confirmed the report to the extent that he knew negotiations have been in progress several weeks.

New Store **Hudson's** New Store
416 7th Street

Monday We Start a Great GRANITE WARE SALE

We've cut prices away down—on the finest FIRST QUALITY GRANITE WARE of the National Enameling and Stamping Company. Just read prices below. You never saw such fine ware quoted at such very low prices. Any article of Granite Ware in our immense stock Monday at 20 per cent discount. These are simply samples of price cutting below.

3-pint Saucepans, with covers; regular price, 50c; Monday's special price, 38c	4-pint Granite Saucepans; regular price, 50c; tomorrow, 37c
12-pint Cooking Pots; regular price, 75c; special price for Monday, 59c	8-pint Granite Saucepans; regular price, 50c; on sale tomorrow, 33c only at
16-pint Cooking Pots; regular price, \$1.10; tomorrow, 87c	5-pint Coffee or Tea Pots; regular price, 40c; tomorrow, 29c
24-pint Cooking Pots; regular price, \$1.20; tomorrow's special price, 98c	4-pint Coffee or Tea Pots; regular price, 50c; tomorrow, 38c
4-pint Seamless Cooking Kettles with covers; regular price, 37c; tomorrow only, 30c	6-pint Coffee or Tea Pots; regular price, 40c; tomorrow, 44c
8-pint Seamless Cooking Kettles with covers; regular price, 44c; tomorrow, 36c	4-pint Saucepans with covers; regular price, 20c; tomorrow, 23c
12-pint Seamless Cooking Kettles with covers; regular price, 50c; tomorrow, 37c	6-pint Saucepans with covers; regular price, 40c; tomorrow, 29c
20-pint Dish Pans; regular price, 40c; tomorrow's sale price, 37c	10-pint Tea Kettles, regular price, 50c; special price Monday, 37c
4-pint Gravy Boilers; regular price, 25c; tomorrow, 19c	12-pint Tea Kettles; regular price, \$1.25; our special price for this sale, 87c

Monday's Great Sale of Housefurnishings

Cocoa Door Mats, 39c	1 Pair Polish-ing Irons, 49c	7-lb Sugar Boxes, 15c
Never-sag Curtain Stretchers, with nickel pins, 81c	Brack-et Stand Kitchen Lamps, 25c	Ventilated Cake or Bread Boxes, small sizes, 29c
Glass Wash Boards, 29c	New Connecticut Food-chopper, 98c	Tin-bottom Boilers, 39c
4-Fold Clothes Horse, Regular price, 60c; special, 47c	Wire Bread Toasters, 5c	Copper-bottom Boilers, 79c
Flour Pail, made of select lumber, 27c	Iron Muffin Pan and Egg Poacher combined, 79c	Japanned Bird Cages, 69c
5-Foot Ironing Boards, Regular price, 49c; special, 40c	4-gal. Garbage Cans, 39c	Pancy Parlor Lamps, with decorated shade, 69c
Common Sweeping Brooms, 10c	Galvanized Water Pails, 15c	Water Set, crystal blown glass, with gold and floral decorations, 98c
Mop and Pan, 19c	Glass Oil Can, 21c	Wine Sets, crystal blown glass, with tray, 89c
Good Coffee Mills, 19c	Galvanized Coal Hod, Fire Shovel, Poker, and Sift-er, 39c	French China Decorated Salad Bowls, 35c
Large White Willow Clothes Ham-per, 79c	Oyster Fryer, Steel Pan, and Wire Basket, 29c	French China Decorated Cake Plates, 35c
Large White Willow Clothes Bas-ket, 59c	500 Tacks and 5 yds. of Lace Pantry Paper, 5c	Carlishad Chi-na Decorated Plates, 10c

Hudson's Variety Store

416 Seventh Street Formerly at 423 Seventh

ALL FORMS DR. REED SPECIALIST

Of Chronic Diseases Are Cured by DR. YOUNG

Who Gives Advice and Consultation Free.

Restoration of strength and vitality in men who are conscious of diminished power and vigor, as a result of past follies or overindulgence, is one of Dr. Young's specialties.

Dr. Young may be consulted free of charge, personally or by letter. His well-known sanitarium, Cor. 12th and F Sts., is open daily for consultation and treatment.

ALL DISEASES OF A SPECIAL NATURE PROMPTLY, PRIVATELY AND PERMANENTLY CURED.

DAILY OFFICE HOURS—10 to 1 and 3 to 6, Sunday, 10 to 12, Wednesday and Saturday evenings from 7 to 8. CHARGES LOW.

DR. CZARRA The Well-known German Specialist.

10 years permanently located in Washington City. His success in treating old and so-called incurable cases is acknowledged by the public and profession. See testimonials at his office.

RUPTURE permanently cured, without pain or loss of time. X-RAY for examination and treatment. CURES cancer, stricture, varicose veins, skin, blood poison, and private diseases quickly for lifetime.

CO-CONSULTATION FREE. Office hours—From 10 to 12 a.m. and 2 to 6 p.m. suit-ly.

DR. LEATHERMAN WASHINGTON'S EXPERT SPECIALIST on Diseases of Men. Varicose, Stricture, Skin and Blood Diseases Cured for Life.

CONSULTATION FREE. 602 F STREET NORTHWEST.

DR. REED SPECIALIST

23 YEARS' Successful practice in the Cure of Chronic Diseases of Men and Women.

Means Health to You If You Suffer From Catarrh, Obesity, Rheumatism, Constipation, Piles, Throat, Lung, Brain, Heart, Blood, and Skin Diseases. Nervous and Wasting Debility, Kidney Diseases, Bladder Troubles, Diarrhea, Stricture, Varicose, Specific Blood Poisoning, Eruptions of the Skin, and Private Diseases cured for life by safe methods.

CHARGES LOW, INCLUDING MEDICINE. CONSULTATION FREE.

Private Waiting Rooms for Ladies. OFFICE HOURS: 10 to 1, 3 to 6, Sundays 10 to 12.

609 TWELFTH ST. N. W.

Dr. SHADE

32 YEARS' PRACTICE.

Dr. Shade is acknowledged to be an expert in the treatment of lung, throat, catarrh, blood, and skin diseases without mercury or potash; also stomach, heart, kidney, liver, brain, nervous, and female diseases. He knows what your trouble may be (mental or physical) consult Dr. Shade free of charge. Both sexes. Strictly confidential. Corner 13th and G sts. oct-31

FAT FOLKS—DR. SLEIGHT, St. Johns, Mich., wants to send a free treatment of his famous tablets and his book on obesity to every fat person; guaranteed harmless; sent in plain envelope, sealed. Write today. 11

DR. WRIGHT SPECIALIST 617 13th St. S. East Bat. F and G. Telephone day or night, Main 3765-F.

Treatment for wasting diseases, nervous troubles, men and women. A new cure for Catarrh. Daily office hours, 8 to 10:30; 12 to 2; 5 to 7, Sundays, 8 to 10:30. Consultation free. oct-31

Our personal guarantee with each purchase.

REINHARDT'S BLACK SILKS.

Reinhardt's reputation for "good wear" Silks did not JUST HAPPEN. We are silk experts and have applied ourselves faithfully and diligently for over twenty-seven years. Established 1876.

BLACK TAFFETA. Guaranteed Wear. Quality A-X; 20-inch, rustle; 50c grade. 44c	BLACK TAFFETA. Guaranteed Wear. Quality 216; 27-inch, 90c value. 70c	BLACK TAFFETA. Guaranteed Wear. Quality 217; 30-inch, rustle; \$1.18
BLACK TAFFETA. Guaranteed Wear. Quality 217; 24-inch, rustle; 75c grade. 59c	BLACK TAFFETA. Guaranteed Wear. Quality A-X; 26-inch, rustle; value; 88c	BLACK TAFFETA. Guaranteed Wear. Quality 180; 24-inch, rustle; \$3.00 value. \$1.45

Lace Curtains, Domestic.

White Nottingham Lace Curtain Sale—Second Floor—Draperies Dept.